



Notes from the Director

No. 56

28 July 1980

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I recently returned from a visit to six of our installations overseas. I was very impressed by the quality of our people and by the exceptional job they are doing. Wherever I went the dedication to the job and esprit that comes from knowing your work is truly important to our country and appreciated came through clearly. I was particularly impressed by the sense of teamwork which is quickly evident in every station. I know you will be as pleased as I was to learn also that I was told repeatedly that the support from Headquarters was just what they wanted. We must never lose sight of the fact that supporting our people in the field is one of our most critical tasks.

Today, the most serious problem our people in the field face is the declining lack of confidence others have in our nation's ability to keep its secrets. While the reasons for this are many, and some we have no power over, I can assure you that we are working on every front we can identify to correct the problem. One of those fronts is our own security procedures here in Headquarters. There has been a marked improvement in the attention to security within the Agency over the past year and one-half. That is an improvement which could not have occurred without the effort of each of you, and it is an accomplishment of which you can be justly proud. I ask all of you to continue to strive to keep security consciousness high. It is a never-ending effort. In turn, I will continue to work for the external cooperation that we must have.

Finally, the input from our stations is and always will be critical to our ability to analyze foreign events and trends. The quality of the product which comes from our overseas operations, while always high, has even improved in the past several years. A clearer sense of the Agency's direction and a better understanding of what is expected of us in intelligence is certainly part of it. But, the biggest part, in my opinion, comes from a dedicated corps of individuals, at all levels in the Agency, both overseas and at Headquarters, who give the best they have regularly day after day. My thanks to each of you.

DCI FELLOWSHIP

I encourage qualified professional intelligence officers to consider applying for a DCI Fellowship at the Center for the Study of Intelligence. This is an excellent opportunity to study a problem of concern to you and to Agency managers in a setting that encourages original research and personal enrichment. I am impressed with the products of the DCI Fellows and look forward to more monographs that shed light on

some of our more vexing Agency and Community problems. Interested applicants may apply for this program year-round and begin their Fellowship upon acceptance into the program. Contact the Center's Director, extension for more information.

STAT

Senior Officer Development

The DDCI and I recently approved the SIS Senior Officer Development Program (SODP) for FY 1981 implementation. This program replaces and expands on the former Personnel Development Program.

The SODP is designed to assist the Career Services in identifying, developing and ultimately selecting men and women with the qualities necessary to assume senior officer responsibilities. It encompasses succession planning and development plans for SIS managers and senior specialists. Special emphasis also will be placed on training and developmental assignments for promising candidates in grades GS-13-15. EEO and Affirmative Action Program goals will be considered, as will individual preferences regarding career direction and development.



STANSFIELD TURNER
Director